

PERSISTENT heavy rain throughout the previous seven days decimated the weekend sports programme in South Bucks.

Very few football matches survived the battering from the weather and rugby and hockey were similarly affected.

Wycombe Wanderers Berger Isthmian League visit to Bromley was called off early on Saturday morning and this was the start for a whole series of postponements.

Their Reserve match against Fleet was put off for the second successive week after the Loakes Park pitch had failed to recover from Thursday's match against Vancouver Whitecaps.

Derby off

The Athenian League local derby match between Burnham and Marlow at The Gore was similarly affected as were other senior football clubs Flackwell Heath, Amersham Town and Chalfont St Peter.

While Wycombe rested, their close Premier Division championship challengers were dropping two valuable points in a goalless draw at

home to Leytonstone, so that was one bit of cheer for the Blues. Leaders Slough Town were also idle.

Bishops Stortford gave the Isthmian League a big boost by knocking Alliance side Worcester City out of the F.A. Trophy. Former Arsenal star John Radford scored one of the goals in their 4-0 win.

This was a great result for the Division One side who should be a credit to the Premier Division next season. Remember, Worcester's run in the F.A. Cup was ended by Wycombe!

Marlow win

Sutton's attempt to make it two Isthmians in the last four was thwarted by the weather. Their quarter-final tie at home to Southern League side Aylesbury United was postponed.

However another Southern League side knocked out favourites Altrincham with a 3-1 victory while Mossley, finalists for the past two years, succumbed to Bangor. Will the Isthmian be the only league to have two representatives in the semi-finals?

The only top rugby match to survive was Marlow's con-

test against the strong Hampshire outfit Havant, at their fast draining Riverwoods ground, next to the Thames.

Marlow came back from behind to record a fine 10-6 victory with a try by Alan Brockfield and two penalties by Paul Reed.

Among those in the crowd were representatives of High Wycombe, their opponents in the Bucks Cup final at Kingsmead this Sunday. They will have noted promising performances by young Marlow backs Andy Coll and Peter Binding.

The hockey programme proved to be a complete wash-out.

BERGER ISTHMIAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	33	18	11	4	54	28	65
Wycombe	36	19	8	9	63	41	65
Enfield	35	18	9	8	64	40	63
Harrow	34	15	9	10	50	38	54
Sutton	31	14	10	7	57	44	52
Leytonstone	32	14	9	9	56	44	51
Dagenham	34	13	9	12	63	56	48
Staines	35	13	8	14	52	51	47
Bromley	34	13	8	13	53	56	47
Hayes	32	14	5	13	31	37	47
Hendon	35	12	9	14	51	52	45
Tooting	37	13	5	19	41	48	44
Dulwich	35	11	10	14	53	57	43
*Barking	37	11	12	14	50	60	43
Leatherhead	36	9	13	14	30	42	40
Carshalton	31	12	4	15	43	58	40
Walthamstow	32	12	4	16	36	52	40
Harlow	33	9	12	12	39	48	39
Croydon	31	7	15	9	30	30	36
Woking	36	10	6	20	35	57	36
Hitchin	31	9	8	14	46	43	35
B'ham Wood	32	9	8	15	40	55	35

*2 points deducted.

WYCOMBE Wanderers have a great chance to regain the leadership of the Berger Isthmian League Premier Division championship when they entertain lowly Croydon at Loakes Park tomorrow (Saturday).

With closest rivals Slough Town and Enfield involved in county cup ties, the Blues can go three points clear with a victory. Even a draw would put them top, but Wycombe must now win every match if they are to take the championship.

There was encouraging midweek news about their main injury worries, defenders Keith Mead and George Borg. Mead, who was limping badly a week ago, trained fully on Tuesday night and seems set to return to the heart of the defence. If he does not, then Phil Bycroft will play.

Borg seems to have recovered from a sore ankle but soon faces a prolonged suspension after amassing the horrendous number of ten bookings this season. The club expect to hear in the near future that he will be

banned for a few weeks. He could miss the last crucial games of the season.

Scott stays

Manager Mike Keen is still not happy with the forward line following their defeat at Enfield a fortnight ago, and both winger Ken Wilson and Terry Scott could come into contention.

Scott seems likely to stay at the club for the rest of the season. It was first thought he would return soon to America, but he has since revealed that he will be going

on the post season tour to Portugal in May.

Croydon will not prove easy to beat, as they have the best defensive record in the league. They have drawn 15 matches this season, many of them goalless and cannot exactly be the most exciting team to watch.

Their poor goal scoring tally has improved a little since the signing of the former Millwall winger Steve Brown, from Gravesend.

This is the first meeting of the clubs this season, but Wycombe will remember only too well the indignity of their 3-0 defeat at Croydon's hands in last season's F.A. Cup.

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Hitchin	31	9	8	14	46	43	35
Boreham Wd	32	9	8	15	40	55	35
+Woking	36	10	6	20	35	67	33

* 2 points deducted, + 3 points deducted.

Seventh time lucky?

AMERSHAM manager Dennis Smith leads his side into the Berks and Bucks Senior Cup semi-final at Milton Keynes tomorrow (Saturday) knowing that in six semi-finals in the past four seasons his side have never won.

Mr Smith, who took charge of Amersham earlier this season, has previously managed Chesham Reserves and Amersham Reserves and succeeded in taking them to Berks and Bucks Intermediate Cup

and Middlesex Border League Cup semi-finals without ever gaining a place in a final.

The Magpies travel to Southern League Midland Division side Milton Keynes, the team that knocked them out of the competition at the same stage last season before going on to win the cup.

Since then things have changed for both sides. Milton Keynes have won only one league match this season and reached the last four by narrowly defeating Holmer Green.

Amersham have changed managers and field only four players who lost to Milton Keynes last year. They are captain Ian Barr, Dougie Dumbarton, Terry Leigh and Marys Tanski.

Amersham's first team have not played for three weeks, but Mr Smith said: "The postponed games have helped some of the injured players recover. Dumbarton and Peter Renshaw played for the reserves at the weekend and I expect to name a full strength side."